deposits can be reckoned among the richest in the Soviet Union. Thus, [133] here in the middle of a remote wasteland a small industrial area has [361] come into being, whose center is the town of Gorodok and which already has more than 10,000 inhabitants. The center is a large wolfram- [316] molybdenum works with modern mines, ore dressing installations, conveying and suspension railroads. The valley slopes here are still grown over by thick taiga. However, toward the east the forest withdraws from the lower slopes, which appear far from one another and form an extensive grass steppe area, which merges with the Selenga steppe without interruption. The valley of the Dzhida is bordered on the south by the Dzhidinskiy Mountain Range named after the river. The Mongolian border runs along the watershed of this mountain range.

The Khamar-Daban continues toward the east with dimensions which become smaller morphologically and geologically. However, the Selenga, which breaks through the mountain in a narrow valley, is usually considered to be the eastern border of the Khamar-Daban. The Selenga circumscribes the eastern part of the Khamar-Daban and empties into Lake Baykal in a broadly projecting delta.

/213/ /Sketch Map of the Buryat-Mongol ASSR:/

/214/ The Selenga Delta is a heaped up plain /Aufschüttungsebene/, which on the mean lies 7 to 8 meters above the water level of Lake Baykal, to which the delta slopes in terraces. The lower terrace, which already bears sea deposits, is completely flat, while the remaining parts are gently rolling. The northeast, the real present-day delta, is traversed by numerous dead and living arms of the Selenga, while the southwest is flowed through by some tiny little rivers, which come directly from the Khamar-Daban. In terms of its landscape, the delta represents a dry steppe, in whose lower, sunken-in parts swamps are imbedded. The delta is fairly heavily populated by Russians and Buryat, who pursue both fishing and agriculture. Irrigation is used in the agriculture. The [261] center of this area is Kabansk, where the railroad coming from the west touches the Selenga for the first time. The products of the fishing are [264] stored here in modern cold storage installations and made ready to be transported away.[1]

From here the railroad uses the valley of the Selenga and reaches [361] Ulan-Ude, the capital of the Buryat Republic, above the break-through by the Khamar-Daban. The city lies on the right bank of the Selenga at the mouth of the Uda, which is navigable by rafts. In 1926 still a small, dusty steppe town with 29,918 inhabitants, Ulan-Ude by 1939 had become a modern industrial city with 129,419 inhabitants. In

[1] [i.e. Kabansk -- Analyst]